

## DRY HOTELS UNABLE TO CUT ROOM PRICES

Prohibition Costs Big Hosteltelies Here Some \$15,000,000 a Year.

FOOD IS CHEAPER

But Managers Cannot Make Good Losses From Bars and Cellars.

WETTER BANQUETS NOW

Liquors Smuggled Into Rooms Despite Honest Efforts to Stop It.

While it costs less to eat in New York hotels now than it did a year ago, rates for rooms remain as high. Once more prohibition is blamed by the cold blooded auditors that check up hotel receipts and find out where the big leaks have been.

Due to prohibition, these unessential persons say, hotel patrons are paying about 25 per cent. more for rooms than otherwise they would have had to pay. For prohibition is costing thirty of the big hotels of New York alone, it is broadly estimated in the business, about \$15,000,000 a year in profits, net receipts, and this has to be met in some way.

Last fall the United States Government, the New York County District Attorney, and the Commissioner of Markets made such a fuss over the steep food prices of the big hotels and restaurants that there was a general reduction, the Pennsylvania cutting 15 per cent. on more than 200 food items, and gradually continuing the reductions; the Waldorf-Astoria, the Biltmore, the Astor and other hotels of this class joining in the movement.

But the loss of \$15,000,000 in net profits from the bar and cellar trade had to be met. There was no other way to meet it than by maintaining and in some cases even increasing rates even when business was rushing. In the case of the Waldorf-Astoria alone prohibition made a difference of \$1,500,000 annually, an enormous hole in prosperity. In an effort to get the hotel point of view of the existing situation THE NEW YORK HERALD obtained from a special committee of the Executive Committee of the City Hotel Association the following statement:

**Did Not Boost Prices.**

"Hotels did not increase their rates for food and rooms the last few years in keeping with the increase in their operating costs, as a comparison of hotel prices with figures of the report of the United States Department of Labor will show. The reason they did not do so was because they were the recipients of an unusual and abnormal volume of business due to the war. This unusual and abnormal volume of business made it unnecessary that rates be increased proportionately with costs.

"But the unusual, abnormal volume of business has disappeared. The profits from the sale of wines and liquors are gone. The hotel man in 1921 is paying practically as much as he paid during the peak prices of 1920 for such items as labor, china, glassware, linen, freight, express and printing. There has been very little decrease in many items, such as housekeeping supplies, engineering supplies and such like charges. In addition the hotel man in 1921 is paying more than ever before for taxes, gas, coal, steam, electric current, music, telephone service and insurance.

"These are some of the reasons which prevent the lowering of rates at present, and which may prevent them from being lowered for some time to come.

"Comparison of present menu prices with those of a few months ago will show that hotels have reduced food prices in keeping with the reduced cost of food materials.

"So far as a reduction of room rates is concerned, the hotels find themselves in the same position as the railroads, which is that with a passenger and freight charge of double the pre-war tariff they are unable to make a profit owing to the high operating costs and the decreasing volume of business. Indeed, the railroads are in a better position than the hotels, because they did not have the most profitable department of their business taken away from them, as the hotels suffered when prohibition came in."

**Respecting Dry Law.**

Hard hit as they have been by prohibition, hotels, of the better class at least, appear to make an honest effort to support enforcement. Inquiry at the Biltmore and the Waldorf as to what methods of enforcement were used by the hotel staffs, brought an identical reply: "We do our best to obey the letter of the law. We instruct head waiters and captains to intercept, if possible, liquor that is being carried into the dining rooms. We discourage this private and surreptitious drinking in every possible way. But it cannot be entirely prevented. Men will insist on hip pocket tactics. Any one knows what banquets have been since prohibition came in. As a rule they have been better and more noticeably bacchanalian than was the case in the wide open days when highballs and champagne were openly served.

"Prohibition, however, is leaving us less to overcome than we had a short while ago. It has about killed the supper trade, for example. People go home nowadays after leaving the theatres or the motion picture houses. It has discouraged the giving of dancing parties. It has radically altered the tone of the night life of the hotels.

"The old red shirts have gone, and undergarments and shoe shops and drug stores have taken their places. Table d'hôte resorts where dinner and laughter and liquor kept patrons happily enmeshed around the tables until bedtime are now closing at 10 o'clock, and even earlier. The old crowds have vanished. Diners seem to regard eating as a duty. And it used to be an experience, not without an occasional thrill.

"One hotel has done away with its jolly hunting room, where the boys used to get together, and the space has been rented to bourgeois merchants. Virtue chophouses where banquets robed themselves in huge white aprons and fraternized over juicy beefsteaks are now admitting women to their tables. The midnight shows have closed, and the electric signs lure one only to a white goods sale, cosmetics, a movie show or chewing gum.

## Reading Serious Stuff on This Vacation.



Judging from their expressions Henry Ford, Thomas A. Edison and President Harding must have found some interesting matter in the newspapers after that camp dinner. Maybe Mr. Edison is reading a thesis on Einstein's theory.

## CREDIT CROOKS REAP \$500,000 HARVEST

Merchants All Over Country Victims of Band of Trade Swindlers.

Within recent weeks merchants throughout the United States have been mulcted of goods worth more than \$500,000 by trade crooks making false pretensions to credit. This fact appeared yesterday when J. H. Tregoe, executive secretary of the National Association of Credit Men, sent to the 33,000 members of the association a warning against the swindlers.

Manufacturers, wholesalers and jobbers are cautioned by Mr. Tregoe against shipping merchandise to applicants for credit merely upon a rating without obtaining a credit report which, in addition to showing the antecedents of the applicants, would give their correct address. Even though the houses highly rated are perfectly good credit grantors should make sure that the persons applying for credit are really connected with the houses rated, and not trading under the same name at a different address. These swindlers apply for credit and refer to rating books regarding their ability to pay. Finding the rating to be satisfactory the seller ships the goods to the address given by the applicants, who maintain fly-by-night headquarters, which often are on the same street as are located the quarters of the regular merchants.

"Mr. C. D. West, manager of the investigation-prosecution department, is determined to end the newest move made by these swindlers," says Mr. Tregoe's statement. "Following an extensive investigation, Mr. West reports that business has been mulcted of at least \$500,000 through this practice."

## TOADS DESTROY ANTS.

Galveston Lad Discovers Enemy of Pest.

GALVESTON, Tex., July 24.—The invasion of armies of ants into Galveston has put boyish ingenuity to work, after having first put housewives to rout and driven to despair any person with a horror of crawling things. All sorts of bug powders, insecticides and other preparations calculated to cause sudden death among the ant colonies recently have been in demand. Even Fort Crockett has been invaded and the army housekeepers have tried every means of dispersing the enemy except turning out the guard.

Now comes a 15-year-old lad with a remedy, said to be sure and certain to destroy—use horned toads! Hooker Larsen offered horned toads for sale in the downtown district, asserting that they would prove sudden death to ants of all varieties and descriptions.

"They open their mouths and follow the ants' trail and swallow 'em up," he stated.

Master Larsen added that one advantage of having the horned toads as official ant destroyers for the household is that a horned toad isn't hurt when a person steps on him, but pursues the ants merrily despite interference.

**FREE, \$20,000,000.**

But Minister Didn't Know Its Potential Value.

DETROIT, July 24.—A minister in the little town of Niles, Mich., was once given a fee to which he attached no value, but later proved to be more than \$20,000,000. The fee was in the nature of a deed to forty acres of land and was in payment for officiating at a wedding ceremony at the home of the Chapin family. The churchman paid no attention to the deed—he did not even record it. A few years later the big Chapin mine on the Menominee range was discovered. That forty acres of right in the heart of it, twenty million dollars' worth of copper ore has been taken out of it and it still has rich reserves.

A young lawyer heard about the wedding fee, searched the country for the minister and found him on the Pacific coast. Suit was brought against the Chapins, and after a considerable wait settlement was made out of court for \$20,000,000. The lawyer and the minister split even.

## MUSKRAT ATTACKS BOY.

Allentown Lad Poisoned by Its Bites.

ALLENTOWN, Pa., July 24.—Guy, 14-year-old son of George W. White of the Fifteenth ward, had a serious case of blood poisoning, resulting from wounds sustained in a fierce battle with a monster muskrat. The boy was walking through tall grass on his way home from school, when the rat suddenly attacked him, fastening his teeth in a wrist.

The boy tore the rodent loose, but it renewed the attack five times. Finally the boy was able to shake off the animal, throwing it ten feet, but in so doing he tore a large piece of flesh from his arm.

Young White hurried home, bleeding from half a dozen wounds, and at once was put in the care of a physician.

## NEW DATE FOR GOLD PIONEER.

PLACERVILLE, Cal., July 24.—On the statue of James W. Marshall, the pioneer who discovered gold in California in 1848, at Colma, near here, there was placed recently a marble inset bearing a new date for the discovery. The inscription on the statue originally gave the date as January 19, 1848. The new date is January 24, 1848.

The change was made by a special commission authorized by the State Legislature investigated and found Marshall made his discovery five days later than originally believed.

## WILL SEEK DELAY ON AUSTRIA'S DEBT TO U. S.

Frenchman Coming Here to Plead for Vienna.

PARIS, July 24.—M. Avenal, the French member of the commission that elaborated the plan for the economic restoration of Austria, will start soon for the United States. He probably will go to Washington to inform the American Government of the present situation.

M. Avenal said to-day that Austria had complied with virtually all the conditions imposed upon her to make the restoration plan effective. Among them are an increase in the customs duties of 100 per cent. from August 1, which will realize an increase of 12,000,000,000 crowns in the Austrian revenues; an increase in railroad freight, passenger and postal rates of 10 per cent. and in tobacco prices of from 100 to 120 per cent. and an increase in stamp registration taxes.

The Austrian Parliament has passed a law authorizing the Government to pledge its resources as security for foreign credits, while the Government has reduced the subsidies for the purchase of food supplies.

The only remaining detail to put the plan into execution, M. Avenal said, was the consent of the United States to suspend for twenty years its lien to the amount of \$24,000,000, as Austria's other creditors already have done.

## 100 LOOK ON AS 22 STEAL \$50,000 RUM

Four Motor Cars Drive Up With Looters to Philadelphia Warehouse.

PHILADELPHIA, July 24.—Twenty-two men, fourteen white and eight negroes, using two large automobile trucks and four touring cars, early to-day stole \$50,000 worth of choice wines and liquors from the warehouse of Morris Schiff.

So well planned was the theft and so successful was it executed that the police are without a clue to the criminals. The efficiency and speed with which the barrels and cases containing the liquors were transferred from the warehouse to the trucks indicated that the ground had been carefully gone over before the raid was attempted. Even the time had been selected with the utmost care. Schiff had left three hours earlier for Atlantic City.

About 4:30 A. M., the men drove up to the warehouse, which is in the rear of Schiff's saloon. All the white men distributed themselves as guards while the negroes did the strenuous work. The two touring cars were stationed at strategic points to sound danger warnings.

The first step taken by the thieves was to remove the danger of any one calling for the police. While the bandits were engaged in binding and gagging a watchman and a baker in adjoining buildings the negroes had broken down the front door of the warehouse with a crowbar.

Within thirty minutes the forty-five cases and thirty-five barrels had been transferred from the warehouse to the trucks.

While this work was being performed with such efficiency the fourteen white men as guards had their hands full. The noise made in breaking the door and rolling the liquor had awakened many persons. Before the robbery had been completed the police estimate that there were at least one hundred watching the operation. And yet so completely did the handful of men have them cowed that not one dared lead a rush. Nor did any of the spectators call the police.

Three families from houses immediately to the rear of the warehouse were locked in a room. Joseph Florowski, who is a competitor of Schiff on the corner opposite Schiff's place, watched the whole proceedings without sending in a warning. After the booty had been loaded on the trucks, he said a perfect military convoy was formed. The first automobile, in which were seven or the men, armed the trucks by about one hundred yards, while the other touring car followed in their wake as a rear guard. The saloonist followed the trucks several blocks, but was soon left behind and lost sight of them.

It was not until a half hour after the robbers had made their get-away that the police were notified.

## "SHOOT WHEN READY!"

AUSTIN, Texas, July 23.—"Shoot when ready," was the reply of C. A. Reynolds, invalid, to the threat of two masked men who told his wife that her husband would be killed if she refused to open the safe in the Reynolds store and give them the money.

The two bandits, both youthful in appearance, had first entered the store and found Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds there alone. After this defiance to the holdup men, who had him covered with a pistol, the invalid beseeched his wife not to open the safe. In an effort to frighten Mrs. Reynolds, the bandits then informed her that she would be killed if she did not open the safe. Mrs. Reynolds, who had edged her way to the rear door of the store, dodged through the opening and began calling for help. Her cries frightened the robbers and they fled.

## WIDOW PROTECTS SON.

Mitchell, a widow, publicly flogged a man known locally as "Happy" Brennan, whom she accused of attempting to molest her four-year-old son, Harry, according to a report she made to the police. She used a riding whip.

"If more mothers would administer that kind of treatment the town would be much safer for themselves and their children," she said.

## U. S. NAVY HAS FIRST 16-INCH GUN SHIP

Maryland, Officially Turned Over, Heaviest Armed in the World.

1,600 OFFICERS AND MEN

Battleship of 32,000 Tons Will Appear Strange With Clipper Bows.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, July 24.—The first fighting vessel in the world to carry sixteen inch guns, is now the property of the United States Government, having been turned over officially, according to advices received to-night by the builders, the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, at Newport News, Va. The battleship is to be put into commission at once by Capt. Charles F. Preston, who is to be in command.

Trouble arose last week concerning delivery, but it has been straightened out to the satisfaction of all concerned. The delivery was to have occurred on Wednesday last, but the paint was not dry. The builders wanted the space in the yards and consequently sent the ship to the naval operating base at Hampton Roads before she was expected. The naval authorities after some discussion took charge of the ship.

It will be early spring before the Maryland will join the Atlantic fleet. Capt. Preston is organizing the crew, which will be composed of about 1,500 men. There are to be 100 officers. They are to be trained before the battleship sets out. The first place to be visited will be Baltimore, to celebrate the fact the vessel was named for the State of Maryland.

The Maryland weighs approximately 32,000 tons. She is not the largest battleship afloat, but carries the heaviest armament. The Tennessee, which is the same size, has 14 inch guns. The largest British battleships have 15 inch guns. The Maryland has six of the 16 inch type.

The Maryland has the new clipper bow which has been adopted for the latest naval vessels, and therefore will look strange to those who have been accustomed to seeing warships with straight lines forward. The object of the clipper bow is to make more room for the anchor. It also gives more deck space.

**STILL ATTRACTS VOLUNTEERS.**

**Divorce Evidence Interests Court Attendees.**

DETROIT, July 24.—The storm tossed matrimonial bark of Alex and Margaret Fagerstrom failed to find haven in the divorce court when Superior Judge Bernard J. Flood refused to pass out a decree to either and left them to weather the storm as best they can.

Fagerstrom is skipper of a scow that transports bricks, bales of hay and other freight between various ports on San Francisco Bay. His wife, according to her testimony, is first mate, cook, cabin boy and the whole crew. She said she had to do a man's work and was denied the pleasure of a real home.

The captain complained that she mutilated and smoked cigarettes and swore like a pirate at him. Mrs. Fagerstrom testified that although the mess room of the Mabel lacked silver and fine linen the captain had a busy brandy still on board. Twenty men in the courtroom at once volunteered for service on the ship.

**50 HIDES FOR PAIR OF SHOES.**

California Dealer Thinks Himself Lucky.

OAKDALE, Cal., July 23.—Frank Reed, Valley Home Irrigation director, is also a hide and cattle buyer.

He was in town the other day attending a meeting of the directors.

The meeting adjourned and he started down the street.

"I'll have to buy me a pair of shoes before I go home," he remarked. "I have just sold fifty hides and if I'm lucky I ought to have enough to pay for the shoes."

## DRYS TRY TO HURRY BEER BILL PASSAGE

Wheeler Accuses Wets of Unfair Play in Delaying Vote in Senate.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, July 24.—The drys to-night charged that wet propaganda is behind the movement to hurry the issuance of Treasury regulations before the Senate acts on the Willis-Campbell anti-beer bill. Wayne B. Wheeler, general counsel for the Anti-Saloon League, issued a statement in which he said:

"The continued objection by the advocates of medicinal beer to the consideration of the enforcement bill is a part of wet propaganda to force the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to issue the beer regulations."

Mr. Wheeler said that if the beer regulations are issued lawlessness will be encouraged. He declared that such a step would "furnish food for the wet propaganda."

"The wets are playing a bold game to defy the law and its enforcement," Mr. Wheeler said. "Large sums have been spent in advertising propaganda by the association against the prohibition amendment advocating repeal of the Volstead act and requiring each State to enact its own law in nullification of the Eighteenth Amendment."

He declared in spite of this opposition there should be an immediate vote on the anti-beer bill.

"Of course," continued Wheeler, "there are other important measures before the Senate for consideration, but this bill has been discussed on three different legislative days and the Senate voted to take it up on Friday. But Senator Reed got the floor and used up the time in talking on another bill. By every rule of fair play and reason this bill should be disposed of at once, even if it means the defeat of the agricultural bill."

Commissioner Blair will not take up the beer regulations again before Tuesday. He will not return to Washington before then from his week end stay in North Carolina. On that day, however, there is expected to be some deference in regard to the beer regulations after Mr. Blair has had time for conference with Senate leaders as to possibility of immediate action. Senate leaders expressed themselves to-night as much in doubt over the probable disposal of the anti-beer legislation within another week, in view of the insistence of Senators for more time for speeches on the question, and the fact that the agricultural bill, which is now the unfinished business, may not be sidetracked.

## AMERICA REARING CHINA OF FUTURE

Correspondent Warns Britain of Menace From 'Americanization.'

LONDON, July 23.—A solemn warning on the menace to Britain of the "Americanization of China" is uttered by a special Far Eastern correspondent of the Daily Mail, who recently attended the twentieth anniversary celebration of the American Indemnity (Tating Hua) College in Peking.

The college was established as a result of the United States Government remitting part of its share of the Boxer indemnity.

"The boys here are China's future leaders," the correspondent says, and after pointing out that they all go to America after completing their studies in Peking, he continues:

"Educated under the American system, aware that they owe their scholarship to American justice, and saturated with American history, by five to eight years' residence in the United States they will look to America solely for cooperation in the troublous years to come. America is rearing the China of tomorrow.

"Why should not we (the British)," he demands, "share an influence that we formerly monopolized and that is now slipping away from us?" and he goes on:

"I asked a returned student as we watched the boys at baseball why China did not look to England as an educational field.

"Sure," he said, "when you remit the Boxer indemnity."

The Chinese president of the college put it to the correspondent this way:

"Chinese-American friendship has become so proverbial that few people take the trouble to investigate the cause of such good international understanding. Any country that wishes to captivate the hearts of the Chinese can do no better than follow the example set by America."

B. Lenox-Simpson, an Englishman who holds the post of political adviser to the Chinese Government, and who is at present in London, writes to the Daily Mail that the process of the Americanization of China is a very real one.

"Big business," he says, "is tending to go more and more to American firms, because the Chinese believe in favoring those who favor them," and he concludes:

"The helpfulness of America, not only to Young China but also to Old China, is a subject of common conversation throughout the immense Chinese society which fills the Far Eastern continent. So far the results of this have not been felt or understood in this country, but unless we take speedy action we are destined to drop during the next twelve months to third or fourth place in the Chinese republic, and thereby affect our whole standing throughout Asia."

## RICH SILVER DEPOSITS LIE SOUTH OF DAWSON

Big Future for Camp Mayo Predicted.

EDMONTON, Alberta, B. C., July 23.—Camp Mayo on Stewart River is destined to be one of the greatest silver lead camps in the world, according to W. J. Elliott, Yukon pioneer prospector. The silver bearing area comprises 1,000 square miles and the ore assays from 200 to 700 ounces of silver to the ton, with strings of carbonate that go 1,700 to the ton.

The camp lies south of Dawson and the old Klondike gold country and directly west of the new Mackenzie River oil fields at Fort Norman, an old fur post of the Hudson's Bay Company, now closing out its lands in the prairie provinces to farm settlers. From Edmonton it is reached by way of Peace River and the Lard region.

The rich deposits have been discovered three times. Martin Harvey of Vancouver first found them in 1898. But it was the notion in those days that quartz mining in the north could not be made to pay and Harvey abandoned his prospects. A few years later Jack McQuartermaster and Jake Davidson found the lode and brought out such glowing reports of its richness that they started a small stampede. Again the field was deserted because of lack of capital.

Finally in 1918 Louis Beauvette rediscovered the field and staked Reno Hill. The Guggenheims became interested and invested large sums of money in the development of the mines, which are now looked upon as potentially among the world's richest. It is expected the Guggenheims will build a railroad to connect with the Alaskan

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## 6 Unexpected Friends

a word to them—  
and to others

RECENTLY a representative of our Business Development Department counted 125 new names on his list of "men to see."

He started out on his calls.

To his surprise, in six instances, well-known business men said, "I have already named the Columbia Trust Company as Executor of my will."

This unspoken confidence in us is noteworthy because in the great majority of cases when a man decides to have us settle his estate he tells us about it.

The above figures probably indicate that a very considerable number of New Yorkers have likewise—confidently and quietly—planned for a Columbia Trust Company Executorship.

In expressing our appreciation we would like to pass on this thought for what it is worth:

We do not give legal advice—that is your lawyer's province. But on the business side of settling estates we are often able, from long experience, to make practical suggestions—which may prove valuable now and later on.

In other words, whether you have made your will or not, we believe you may find it well worth while to talk with us informally and confidentially.

A Vice-President or Manager in charge at any one of our offices is always glad to confer with you—without obligation on your part.

Meanwhile, if you happen to be on our list of "men to see" we think you will find a few minutes' talk with one of our representatives time well spent.



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